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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

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FROM : WALLACE B. ROWTON
TO :
TITLE : MEMO: SUBJECT - WALLACE B. ROWTON MEETING WITH LIRING/3
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SUBJECTS : JFK ASSASSINATION
LIRING

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26 May, 1967

Subject: Wallace B. Rowton Meeting with LIRING/3.

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1. Rowton met with LIRING/3 at the safehouse from 1800 until about 1930 on 25 May, 1967. LIRING/3 reported that as yet he had not heard from Garcia and would stand by for the next two days in the hope that Garcia would reappear at his home. LIRING/3 agreed to invite Garcia, once he did appear, to coffee or lunch at a restaurant on 29 or 30 May so that Rowton could get a look at him. LIRING/3 also reported that LIRING/4 had been working part-time, in the mornings, at the Consulate, and that her rapport with the local staff was improving. Rowton suggested that it might be the right time to give LIRING/4 some compensation for her efforts. LIRING/3 agreed and promised to ask LIRING/4 to be at the safehouse at 1000 on 27 May, so that Rowton could again talk privately with her and give her the money (Rowton suggested 500 pesos, and LIRING/3 agreed that this would be adequate).
2. LIRING/3 reported that LIRING/4's resumption of contact had begun to pay off better than he had thought possible. He explained that she had found an opportunity on the afternoon of 23 May to chat with Abelardo Curbeño and had returned home with some interesting information concerning the Cuban attitude toward LIRING/3 himself. According to LIRING/3, LIRING/4 said that Curbeño told her that he was happy that she had finally come back in close contact with the Consulate. In commenting on LIRING/3, Curbeño in a more or less joking way stated that LIRING/4 must understand that the "revolution is surrounded by provocations" and that many persons on the outside, such as LIRING/3, have become innocent victims of organizations such as WOFACIX, that are constantly sending provocations against the revolution. Curbeño stressed that he did not feel that LIRING/3 fell into that category, but LIRING/4 must understand the precautions that have to be taken by the revolution. He concluded that he hoped LIRING/3 would not take offense (tomarlo a mal) and would feel free to
3. LIRING/3 then stated that he was doing his best to keep active certain contacts he had had in the past that were on the periphery of the official Cuban circle. He mentioned specifically the case of Silvia and Horacio Durán that then explained the background of his relationship with them. He related that Silvia Durán worked as receptionist at the Consulate in 1963-64 and was on duty when Lee Harvey Oswald applied for a visa. She had been recommended to the Cubans by Teresa Proenza, the Press Attaché from 1959 until 1962. LIRING/3 described Teresa Proenza as a Cuban woman aged about 52, a Lesbian, and a member of the Communist Party of Cuba, who was currently in jail in

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Cuba as the result of a conviction for espionage on behalf of WOFAC. LIRING/3 recalled that during his last visit to Havana, a friend of his in the Ministry of Education, informed him of Teresa Proenza's present situation and advised LIRING/3, in the event he was asked, he deny that he had known Teresa Proenza or had had anything to do with her. LIRING/3 continued that just the other day Silvia Durán had telephoned him to say hello and that he had visited her at her home to renew his acquaintance. (LIFEAT SAN-26(10.8) reveals that at about 1245 on 22 May, 1967, LIRING/3 telephoned 15-78-11 and asked for sra. Silvia. When (maid) informed him she not in, he asked for sr. Horacio. When same negative reply given, he asked that they be advised that LIRING/3 had called to say hello. SAN-26 (11.0) reveals an incoming call from Silvia Durán in which she asks how he obtained her number. He replies: "At the Cuban Institute". She states that she is studying at some school and at the moment is free to talk to LIRING/3. The latter replies that he would go by to visit her (Constituyentes 143, apt 3) in a few minutes.)

4. LIRING/3 continued that Silvia Durán informed him that she had first met Oswald when he applied for a visa and had gone out with him several times since she liked him from the start. She admitted that she had sexual relations with him but insisted that she had no idea of his plans. When the news of the assassination broke she stated that she was immediately taken into custody by the Mexican police and interrogated thoroughly and beaten until she admitted that she had had an affair with Oswald. She added that ever since then she has cut off all contact with the Cubans, particularly since her husband Horacio, who was badly shaken by the whole affair, went into a rage and has forbidden her to see them. She added that she felt certain that her telephone was tapped by the Mexican police, or, more probably by WOFAC, since tapping was an expensive proposition and the Mexicans wouldn't be able to afford it for so long a period.

5. Rowton counseled LIRING/3 against any further contact with the Duráns on the ground that it might put him under some sort of suspicion either in the eyes of the Mexican police or the Cubans. He pointed out that little or nothing was to be gained from such a contact.

5. LIRING/3 then produced, at Rowton's request, a sketch of the Consulate and Embassy premises, copy of which is attached. LIRING/3 commented that to his knowledge Cepeda did not have an office, at least not on the first floor. His other comments appear on the sketch as reproduced by Rowton.

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WBRouton
Wallace B. Rowton